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TO AMEMBASSY BEIJING PRIORITY

INFO ALL EAST ASIAN AND PACIFIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS

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AMEMBASSY BEIJING 5/27/97

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E.O. 12356: DECL OADR

TAGS: PREL CH, HK, MG US

SUBJECT: WEEKLY STATUS REPORT: EAP/CM - JULY 28 1995

TO: EAP - AMBASSADOR LORD

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FROM EAP/CM - BILL STANTON, ACTING

UPDATE ON HARRY WU CASE

1. (C) THE CONTINUED DETENTION IN WUHAN OF U.S. CITIZEN AND HUMAN RIGHTS ACTIVIST HARRY WU REMAINS AMONG OUR MOST ACTIVE ISSUES. DAILY PRESS GUIDANCE BRIEFING- AND CONTACTS WITH CAPITOL HILL STAFF AND INTERESTED NGOS ARE REQUIRED

2. LATE IN THE WEEK A PRIVATE CHINESE MEDIA ORGANIZATION (WITH CLOSE OFFICIAL LINKS) RELEASED A VIDEOTAPE PURPORTEDLY SHOWING HARRY WU "CONFESSING" TO INACCURACIES OR DISTORTIONS IN A BBC DOCUMENTARY HE HAD COLLABORATED ON LAST YEAR. REACTION FROM CAPITOL HILL WAS SWIFT VIGOROUS AND ANGRY. YOU DISCUSSED THE VIDEOTAPE WITH A NUMBER OF

CONGRESSMEN ON JULY 27. THE SECRETARY ADDRESSED OUR MISGIVINGS ABOUT THE TAPE DURING A QUESTION-AND-ANSWER SESSION AFTER HIS ASIA SPEECH ON FRIDAY JULY 28. ALSO ON FRIDAY IN BEIJING A PROVINCIAL FOREIGN AFFAIRS OFFICIAL IN HUBEI INFORMED THE EMBASSY THAT THE "RELEVANT OFFICE" HAD APPROVED ANOTHER CONSULAR VISIT ALTHOUGH THE TIMING

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IS STILL UNDER DISCUSSION. AS THE SECRETARY HEADS TO BRUNEI FOR ASEAN MEETINGS AND A KEY BILATERAL MEETING WITH VICE PREMIER/FONMIN QIAN, THE HARRY WU CASE REMAINS A PRIORITY ISSUE ON HIS BILATERAL AGENDA. (JJF)

WOMEN'S CONFERENCE LOGISTICS: POLITICS OR

BUREAUCRATIC PROBLEMS?

(C) A DELAY IN ISSUING VISAS AND OTHER LOGISTICAL PROBLEMS FOR PARTICIPANTS IN THE FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN AND ASSOCIATED NGO FORUM TOOK ON DISTURBING OVERTONES THIS WEEK. THE WASHINGTON POST AND NPR CARRIED STORIES JULY 28 ON A PRESS CONFERENCE HELD BY THE CHINA ORGANIZING COMMITTEE (COC) DURING WHICH CHINESE OFFICIALS CLAIMED THE NGO FORUM SITE COULD ONLY ACCOMMODATE 10,000 PARTICIPANTS INSTEAD OF THE APPROXIMATELY 36,000 WHO HAD APPLIED. THE COC HAD EARLIER AGREED THAT THE FORUM SITE WOULD BE LARGE ENOUGH TO ACCOMMODATE ALL APPLICANTS WHO

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REGISTERED BY THE CUTOFF DATE. ENSUING DELAYS IN ISSUANCE OF VISAS AND CUSTOMS GUIDELINES HAD BEEN GENERALLY ATTRIBUTED TO THE DIFFICULTIES IN PLANNING ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE 41,000 PEOPLE EXPECTED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE CONFERENCE AND FORUM. THE COC NEWS CONFERENCE RAISED CONCERN HOWEVER, THAT THE CHINESE DELIBERATELY DELAYED LOGISTICAL PREPARATIONS FOR THE CONFERENCE IN ORDER TO LIMIT FORUM PARTICIPATION AND THEREFORE MINIMIZE FEARED DISTURBANCES BY PARTICIPATING NGOS. OUR EMBASSY IN BEIJING HAS BEEN REBUFFED IN ITS ATTEMPTS TO OBTAIN CLARIFICATION ON LOGISTICAL ISSUES RELATING TO THE

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CONFERENCE. ONGOING BILATERAL TENSIONS MAY BE THE PRINCIPAL REASON

ALIEN SMUGGLING SHIP ARRIVES AT WAKE ISLAND

3. (C) THE ALIEN SMUGGLING SHIP M/V JUNG SHENG NO. 8. CARRYING MORE THAN 150 CHINESE MIGRANTS ESCORTED BY A COAST GUARD CUTTER, ARRIVED AT WAKE ISLAND ON JULY 27. THE ARMY HAS DISPATCHED MORE THAN 300 PERSONNEL FROM HAWAII TO WAKE TO CONSTRUCT FACILITIES TO HOLD THE MIGRANTS UNTIL WE CAN REPATRIATE THEM TO CHINA. CHINESE AUTHORITIES HAVE INDICATED THAT REPATRIATION MAY BE POSSIBLE AS EARLY AS AUGUST 7. (PAN) CHRISTOPHER

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